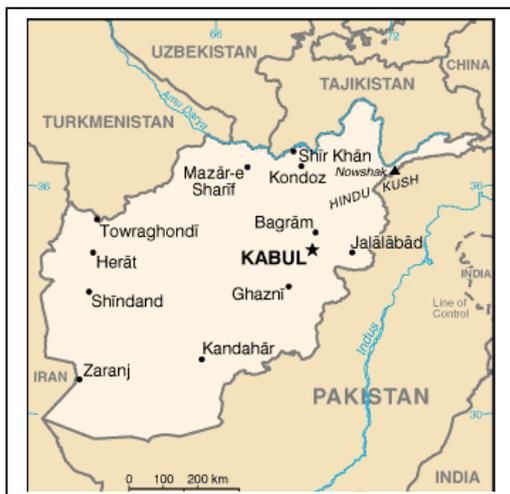


Gas Regulatory Framework Study

Project Summary

Subsector	Oil and Gas
Location	Nationwide
Project Cost	\$650,000
Project Type	Consulting Services
Project Executing Firm/Agency	Ministry of Mines and Industries
Funding Agency	Asian Development Bank



Project Outline

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) recently announced the \$650,000 in potential procurement of consulting services under the ADB Technical Assistance (TA) grant programs.

Technical Description

The main objective of this study is to design an effective regulatory system for the gas sector in Afghanistan to ensure efficient development and utilization of natural gas as the domestic market expands. The scope of work under the TA will include reviewing the natural gas sector in the context of issues related to regulatory framework, evaluating the economic impact of regulation, establishing regulatory objectives, identifying appropriate institutional arrangements, and providing analytical and operational support in the functioning of the gas regulatory authority.

Project Site

The project is based in Kabul. The Ministry of Mines and Industries will be the government counterpart for the study.

Project Status/Timeline

ADB will undertake a fact-finding mission in January 2003. Recruitment of consultants is expected to take place in July 2003.

Equipment and Services

An international consulting firm with experience in the development of regulatory structures, gas regulatory issues and systems, evaluation of benefits and costs associated with regulatory reforms, and capacity building related to regulation of gas industry will be required for 12 person-months.

U.S. Competitiveness

U.S. firms should be extremely competitive for consulting services with the ADB. The U.S. is one of the largest contributors to the ADB and there are numerous U.S. firms implementing ADB TA contracts. Firms with regional experience or prior Afghan experience will be very attractive under this opportunity.

Project Financing

ADB will finance this technical assistance grant of \$650,000 under its project number AFG 36286-01.

Conclusion

The Asian Development Bank selects a consultant for a Technical Assistance grant based on its prior Expression of Interest (EOI). An EOI can be transmitted on-line through the ADB's Web site (www.adb.org); it will be acknowledged automatically. Firms may opt to send a hardcopy follow-up EOI addressed to Mr. S. Thuraisingham, Director, Consulting

Services Division, with a copy to the ADB Project Officer. The EOI should relate a firm's experience and expertise to the ADB project. It is important for a U.S. firm to emphasize its similar project experience in the country or in a similar geographic area rather than presenting a general profile of its consulting activities. A separate EOI should be submitted for each project. The project name indicated in the EOI should exactly match that listed in the ADB Business Opportunities publication to avoid confusion.

To be considered for employment, consultants must register on the ADB's DACON (data on consulting firms) and DICON (data on individual consultants) systems, otherwise, their EOIs will not be accepted. DACON and DICON registration can now be done on-line at www.adb.org/consulting.

U.S. firms may also send a notification copy of their EOIs to the U.S. Commercial Liaison Office for the ADB:

U.S. mailing address:

U.S. Commercial Liaison Office for the ADB
Attention: Stewart Ballard, Senior Commercial Officer
PSC 500 Box 33
FOP AP 96515-1000

International mailing address:

U.S. Commercial Liaison Office for the ADB
Attention: Stewart Ballard, Senior Commercial Officer
25th floor Ayala Life-fgu Center
6811 Ayala Avenue
Makati City
Metro Manila, Philippines 1226
tel: (63-2) 887-1345
fax: (63-2) 887-1164
e-mail: manila.adb.office.box@mail.doc.gov

This office works closely with the Office of the U.S. Executive Director to the ADB to increase American awareness of, and participation in, the ADB's activities. For more information on this project, the name of the ADB Project Officer is indicated below. The U.S. Commercial Liaison Office is ready to provide assistance to U.S. firms upon request.

Key Decision Makers

Organization or Company Name	Asian Development Bank
Contact Person	Salim Qayum
Title	Liaison Officer
Address	Asian Development Bank, Afghan Liaison Office, Chahrahi Ansari (Adjacent to District 4 Office), Kabul, Afghanistan
Telephone	+93-70-277-154

Fax	+873-76-3421-914 or 76-1660-769
E-mail	afgslo@adb.org

Organization or Company Name	Asian Development Bank
Contact Person	Najeeb Jung
Title	Infrastructure Division, SARD
Address	Asian Development Bank, 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 0401 Metro Manila, Philippines
Telephone	+632-632-6240
Fax	+632-636 2444
E-mail	njung@adb.org

Organization or Company Name	Ministry of Mines and Industries
Contact Person	Dr. Mir M. Mahfooz (Nedai)
Title	First Deputy Minister of Mines & Industries
Address	Kabul, Afghanistan
Telephone	+93-220-0065, 2101377-25943 or 070-275-116
E-mail	mmiafg@yahoo.com